

The three VVonders of this Age.

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Not to trouble the Reader with the great and mighty Men, recorded in the Sacred text, nor with Poets fabulous narration of the sonnes of *Tytan*, and other Gyants of extraordinary height and stature, as *Iapetus*, *Enceladus*, *Polyphemus*, *Briareus*, *Adamâmer* and others: But to come into our history, we read of *Agatho* an arteman, who lived in the time of *Adrian* the Emperour who was eight foot and a span in height, and of *Porus* a King of *India*, whom *Alexander* overcame in Battaille, who was foure Cubits and an hand-breadth, but *Armathus Bebricus* (as *Textor* relates) was eight Cubits high, and *Orestes* the sonne of *Agamemnon* seven: In *Plynius* time (accordingly as *Archirenius* hath left remembred). There was brought out of *Arabia*, one *Gabbars*, whose stature was nine foot by the standard and nine inches: A full halfe foot higher then hee, were *Puso*, and *Secundilla*, whose bodies (being dead) for wonders sake, were long time preserued in a Garden nere *Rome*, which belonged to the family of the *Salusti*. Of what a mighty stature the Emperour *Maximinus* was, may be easily conjectured of whom it is reported, usually to weare his wifes bracelet, instead of a Ring upon his finger. Let these suffice for infinitis, who in their Life-times were taken for men, then let not those living in this age, be held for monsters. And not to speake much of the great and tall man twelve foot high, whom some report was taken in *Ireland*, some that he was found in a remote Island, in the *West Indies*: others that he was brought from *Canada*, who is reported to have run away with a Deare under his arme, as big as a huge stag, and did run faster then any Horfe, but wee will forbear him till we see him, and come to what we know. What may we then thinke of those great Men, whose statutes are still preserued in the *Guild Hall of London*, to perpetuall memory, namely *Corineus* and *Gogmagog*, the one a *Trojan* the other a Native, who wrastling upon *Dover Cliffs*; *Gogmagog* broke one of *Corineus* Ribs, at which he enraged clasped him in his Armes, and lifting him from the ground, cast him downe from the promontory into the Sea, which place hath ever since from succession bin cald, the fall or leap of *Gogmagog*. There is now in *London* a yong man, borne in *Lancashire* but eighteen years of Age, straight of body, and well proportioned in all his limbes, whose height already is within three inches of the great Porter: and who but knew Master *Parsons*, borne in *Shropshire*, Porter of the Kings Gate, and contemporary with Master *William Evans*, whose portraiture is here to be seen, and whose stature is even foot and upwards.

So me whom we call Dwarfs, the Latines call *Nani*, *Hominiones*, *pmiliones*, and *Punili*, &c. Such an one was *Canopes*, who was the great delight of *Julia* daughter to *Augustus Cesar*, his height was two foot, and an hand-breadth. (according to *Plini*) of the same stature was *Andromeda*, the freed woman to *King Augustus*: *Varrone* reports *Manius Maximus*, and *M. Tullius* (not *Cicerio* the Orator) Knights of *Rome*, to have bee no more then 2 Cubits high: There were two *Molons* of an extraordinary shorthesse, the one a witty Actor, the other a cunning Theife, from whom grew a Proverbe, *A Dwarfe as little as Molon*. The tallest amongst the *Pigmies* is reported not to be above two foot in height, for he is held to be a Gyant amongst them who is a hand-breadth higher: their Women beare Children at five yeares, and at eight, they are said to be old, their Land lyes in the extreamest part of the Islands of *India*, (for so faith *Cloud*, lib. i in *Eutrop* with others) *M. Anton*: *Sisiphus* had a Dwarfe not two foot high, of an excellent wit and capacity, and *Augustus Cesar* shewed in the Theater one *Lucius*, borne of honest parents, lower then the former by two fingers. Likewise there was one *Robert Wainman*, who served *M. Willoughby* in *Lincolne-shire* of an exceeding low stature, an excellent Huntsman, who was after preferred to *King James*, and served him till his Death.

Queen *Elizabeth* had also a she Dwarfe, who lived till she was very aged, the Lady *Harton* hath another of the like stature: The Lord of *South-hampton* had one of a manly face, but his height not above two Cubits, and the Lord High Martiall another at this time: and there is one now living, being a Master of Art, and an excellent approved Scholler, as testifies the University of *Cambridge*. And also one *John Tomson*, borne in *Torke-shire* neare unto *Wakefield*, being a Smith at this time behind *Saint Clements Church* without *Temple-barre*, and not any of these exceeding two Cubits. whotever then shall looke upon little *M. Jeffrey*, and his small mistresse, who was late living. Her maisties hee and shee-dwarfes, may with the more facility give beliefe unto these before remembred. And for him, he is one of the pretieſt, neateſt, and well proportioned ſmall men that ever Nature bred, or was ever ſene, or heard of beyond the memory of man, for his fine behaviour and witty diſcourse. But concerning Dwarfs, and the prieſt of little ones, whoſever deſires to be intruſted therein, let them reade the Booke called the *New-yeares Gift*, lately come out, (a learned though a little work,) and hee ſhall be better instructed, and further ſatiſfied &c.

Speak not of thoſe who lived before the flood, nor of thoſe whom the ſcripture remembers after, as *Noah* and his ſons; the Patriarks and others: but I come to other Authentick Histories. *Pliny* ſpeakes of *Arganton* king of the *Tarteffians* who lived three hundred yeares. *Cymir* king of the *Ciprians* 160. *Tarwina* the daughter of *Cicerio*, 107, was the daughter of *Ophelius* 115. *Narcifus* bishop of *Hierusalem*, 116. It is reported of *Nestor* to have lived 300, *Florentinus* prebiter, 123. *Vincentius* confessor, 120. *Homer* the Poet, 108. one *Herninus*, 304. *Iohanes de temporibus*, 361. *Paulus* the first Hermit, 123. *Facomius* the Abbat, 110. And *Calius* remembers us of one *Maria*, which lived, 123. *Galen* the moft expert and exellent physician, 140. *Tyro* a freed-man to *M. Cicero*, 109. one *Simon Cleophas* biþop of *Hierusalem*, 120. I could remember youf infinite others, but in this relation, not very many have past the age of this *Thomas Parr*. A word or two of antient men who lived in theſe times. First, of a witty anſwer of an old man brought up out of the country by a *Sub-paſta* to be a witness in a caufe, was demanded of the Judge, ſeeing him ſo grey, of what years he was, who anſwered him, that he was two and an hundred: the Judge replied, & why not rather an hundred and two, he anſwered againe, Because my Lord, I was two years old before I was an hundred. A Judge of this kingdome in his circuit was met in *Hertford-shire* by 7 Morris-dancers and a piper, who could make among them 1100. and odder years. Likewise in *Leicester-shire*, within theſe two yeares there lived ſix men and their wifes, who could make 1300. years amongst them, being Tennants to a worthy gentle-man there. A woman now living in *Holland*, cal'd *Elizabeth Paule* dwelling in *Amsterdam* by *Harlem* port, is knowne to be an 136. years old, ſhe hath had 26. husbands, and married the laſt within theſe two years. *vid. Dutch Hift*. The Counteſe of *Desmond* in *Ireland*, *Sr. Walter Rawleig* makes mentiō in his history of the world, who attained to, if not exceeded the age of that old man. There is one *Thomas King* living now at the crowne Taverner in *Smith-field*, being father to the Miftris of the houſe, who was eight yeares old when King *Henry* went to *Bulloine*, being 103. years old, and hath his strength, and memory yet continued to him, and that within this twelve moneths hee hath gone 30 miles a day, for three daies together. This *Thomas Parre*, did remember, as our *Hitory Record*, in King *Edward* the 4th his Reign, one *Margaret Davy* for poysoning of eleven persons, and one *Richard Rose* a Cooke, for poysoning of ſixteone, were at ſeveral times boyled to death in *Smith-field*: as alſo that the King was three weeks paſſing that ſhort cut betwixt *Dover* and *Calais* to ſaile into *France*, the winds being contrary: And further he did call to mind that in the fourteenth year of his age, mault was fold for twelve pence the quarter, and 17 at the deareſt. And in a towne of *Hertford-shire*, a farmer ſold 20 quarters of wheat for 20 ſhillings, and this man lived in the raigne of nine Kings and Queens of *England*. This coine which you ſee plac't by him, was coind in *Edward* the 4th. time, being a groat, which he wore a long time about his neck, he lived ſo long, even to the age of one hundred fifty two years and upwards, that his daughter *Joan* was faine to feed him like a childe, a roaſted apple was the laſt food he received, and ſooner after dyed, and now lies buried at *Westminster*; and ſhal have a monument beſtowed on him.